

Clergy:
 Rt. Rev Arch Mark Melone
 Protodn. Bryan McNeil
 Dn. John MacMillan
 Dn. Ziad Layous

Saturday Vespers : 5:30pm

Sunday Liturgy Schedule:

Orthros 8:20am
Divine Liturgy
 9:00am
 11:00am

Choir Rehearsal
 7:00pm Wednesdays

CCD & CYO
Sunday: after 9:00am
 Liturgy

Weddings
 Minimum six months'
 notice
 Pre-Cana required

Baptisms
 Minimum one month
 notice

Parish Council
 7:00pm, 1st Tuesday of
 each month

St Joseph Guild
 7:00pm, 2nd Monday of
 each month

The Publicans Prayer
Group Mtg.:
 12:00 Noon 1st Monday of
 each month.

Tuesday January 24, 2012
 7:00pm Scholarship
 Committee Meeting in the
 Rectory

St. Joseph Melkite Church

241 Hampshire St., Lawrence, MA 01841
 Tel (978)682-8152
 www.StJosephMelkiteCatholicChurch.org

Sunday, 22 January 2012
Fifteenth Sunday after the Holy Cross
Zaccheus

Theme of the Liturgical Year

The Lord: "There will be more Joy in Heaven over one sinner
 who repents than over ninety-nine who have no need of repentance" (Luke 15:7).

The Faithful: "Lord, Show me the path to life, abounding Joy in Your Presence, the delights
 at Your right hand" (Psalm 16:11).



The Holy Apostle Timothy was from the Lycaonian city of Lystra in Asia Minor. In the year 52, when the Apostles Paul and Barnabas first visited the cities of Lycaonia, St Paul healed one crippled from birth. Many of the inhabitants of Lystra then believed in Christ, and among them was Timothy, his mother Eunice and grandmother Loida (Lois) (Acts 14:6-12; 2 Tim. 1:5).

The seed of faith, planted in St Timothy's soul by the Apostle Paul, brought forth abundant fruit. He became St Paul's disciple, and later his constant companion and co-worker in the preaching of the Gospel. The Apostle Paul loved St Timothy and in his Epistles called him his beloved son, remembering his devotion and fidelity with gratitude. He

wrote to Timothy: "You have followed my teaching, way of life, purpose, faith, long-suffering, love, and patience" (2 Tim. 3:10-11). The Apostle Paul appointed St Timothy as Bishop of Ephesus, where the saint remained for fifteen years. Finally, when St Paul was in prison and awaiting martyrdom, he summoned his faithful friend, Timothy, for a last farewell (2 Tim. 4:9).

St Timothy ended his life as a martyr. The pagans of Ephesus celebrated a festival in honor of their idols, and used to carry them through the city, accompanied by impious ceremonies and songs. St Timothy, zealous for the glory of God, attempted to halt the procession and reason with the spiritually blind idol-worshipping people, by preaching the true faith in Christ. The crowd angrily fell upon the holy apostle. They beat him, dragged him along the ground, and finally, they stoned him. St Timothy's martyrdom occurred in the year 93.

In the fourth century the holy relics of St Timothy were transferred to Constantinople and placed in the church of the Holy Apostles near the tombs of St Andrew and St Luke. The Church honors St Timothy as one of the Apostles of the Seventy.

Commemorations

Sunday Jan 22, 2012

15th Sunday after the Holy Cross

9:00am

+ Memorial Liturgy for Alex and Paul Hajjar, Kenneth Walworth, and Terese Jones requested by Lois Walworth and Family.

+ 9th Day Memorial for our beloved Georgette Nahill

+ 3 Day Memorial for Blanche Baderian

11:00am

For our community & Friends

Tuesday January 24, 2012

7:00pm

Meeting of the Scholarship Committee in the rectory

Sunday February 5, 2012

9:00am

+ Memorial Liturgy for Michael and Claire Hajjar requested by their daughters and family.

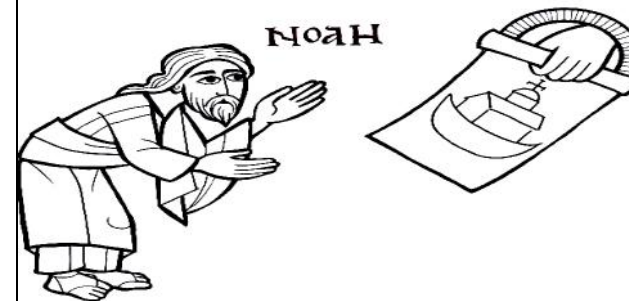
11:00am

For our community & Friends

“NEW BEGINNINGS “
Our Map back to Paradise
A Parish Pre Lenten Retreat

Friday February 10 at 7:00pm

Saturday February 11 10:00am - 3:00pm



Collection: January 15, 2012

Sunday Collection	1560.00
Mailed in Donations	170.00
Candles	89.00
Memorials	25.00
Fuel	685.00
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	2529.00

Let us all pray for all Parishioners and Friends who are sick, especially:

Alfred Beaulieu, Adele Saba, Anthony Scione, Chakib Bourjeili, Helen Dehni, Joseph and Jackie Ulbin, Joel Habib, Michael and Vicenza Bider, Yvonne Delpozso, Eva Saba, Lorraine Saba, Francis Hyatt, Josephine Morway, Ann Hajjar, Rita Melone, Eddie and Jean Habeeb, Rosaline Habeeb

Scholarship Applications

To all our high school seniors and college students.

There are two different applications in the church vestibule:

One is for graduating high school girls,
 The Syrian Lebanese Women's Club
 of Greater Boston Scholarship
 The deadline is March 31, 2012

And the

ALAA Scholarship
 For both girls and boys.
 The deadline date is March 1, 2012

Our own scholarship applications will be available soon.

The Monk Martyr Anastasius the Persian



was the son of a Persian sorcerer named Bavi. His name then was Magundates and he served in the armies of the Persian emperor Chozroes II, who in 614 ravaged the city of Jerusalem and carried away the Life-Creating Cross of the Lord to Persia.

Great miracles occurred there because of the Cross of the Lord, and

the Persians were astonished. The heart of young Magundates was inflamed with the desire to learn more about this sacred object. Asking everyone about the Holy Cross, the youth learned that upon it the Lord Himself was crucified for the salvation of mankind. He became acquainted with the truths of the Christian Faith in the city of Chalcedon, which the army of Chozroes occupied for a time. He was baptized with the name Anastasius, in honor of the Lord's Resurrection, became a monk, and spent seven years in one of the Jerusalem monasteries.

Reading the Lives of the holy martyrs, Anastasius was inspired with the desire to imitate them. A mysterious dream, which he had on Great and Holy Saturday, the day before the Resurrection of Christ, urged him to do this. In the dream he beheld a radiant man giving him a golden chalice, who said to him, "Take this and drink." Draining the chalice, he felt an ineffable delight and realized that this vision was his call to martyrdom.

Leaving the safety of the monastery, he was arrested for being a Christian and was brought to trial. The governor tried in every way to force Anastasius to renounce Christ. He was subjected to torture and then worn down with heavy work in the stone quarry with other prisoners. Finally, the governor summoned St Anastasius and promised him his freedom if he would only say, "I am not a Christian." The holy martyr replied, "I will never deny my Lord before you or anyone else, neither openly nor even while asleep. No one can compel me to do this while I am still in my right mind." Then by order of the emperor Chozroes, St Anastasius was strangled, then beheaded.

Hymns:

Troparion of the Resurrection, 7th Tone

Through your Cross You destroyed death, You opened Paradise to the thief, and turned into joy the mourning of the ointment-bearing Women, and You ordered your Apostles to proclaim that You rose, O Christ God, bestowing great mercy upon the world.

Troparion of the St Joseph, 2nd Tone

O Joseph, proclaim to David, the ancestor of Christ our God the great miracles you have witnessed. You have seen the virgin with a Child, given praise with the Shepherd, adored with the wise men, and the Angel of the Lord has appeared to you. Intercede with Christ God that he may save our souls.

Kondakion of the Presentation of our Lord T1

O Christ our God who, through your birth have sanctified the virginal womb and have blessed the arms of Simeon, You have come today to save us. When wars prevail, keep your people in peace and strengthen our Public Authorities in every good deed, for You alone are the Lover of mankind.

**Thank you to the
United Lebanese Charitable & Cultural Society
for the generous donation of \$500.00 to our fuel
this winter.**

January 18 - 25, 2012

Prayer week for Christian Unity

Suggested daily prayer

O our Lord God Jesus Christ, on the eve of your redemptive suffering, You fervently asked your heavenly Father that all your followers be one, as you are One with the Father and the Holy Spirit. We implore You divine Master, to bestow upon all Christian Churches the unity of faith, of hearts and of aims, so that they become One Flock under the leadership of One Shepherd according to your wish. Grant us, Lord to love one another as You loved us. So that seeing our unity, the world may believe in You. And embrace your message of peace and love, for You are the Prince of Peace and Lover of mankind and to You we render glory, and to your Eternal Father, and your All-holy, Good and Life-giving spirit, now and always and forever and ever. Amen

Prokimenon: The Lord will give strength to his people; the Lord will bless his people with peace.

Stichon: Give to the Lord, you sons of God, give to the Lord glory and praise.

Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Timothy 4: 9 -15

My son Timothy, this saying is true and worthy of full acceptance: for we work and are reviled for this reason, that we hope in the living God who is the Savior of all men, especially of believers. Command and teach these things. Let no man despise the fact that you are young, but be an example to the faithful by what you say and do, by love, faith, spirituality and chastity. Until I come, be diligent in reading, exhorting and teaching. Do not neglect the grace that is in you, granted to you as a speaker for God through the laying on of the hands of the priesthood. Meditate on these things, give yourself entirely to them, so that your progress may be evident to all.

Alleluia: It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High!

Stichon: To proclaim your kindness at dawn and your faithfulness throughout the night.

Fifteenth Sunday after the Holy Cross

The Gospel according to Saint Luke the Evangelist 19: 1 - 10

Zacchaeus' Repentance

At that time as Jesus was passing through Jericho, behold there was a man named Zacchaeus; and he was a leading publican, and he was rich. And he was trying to see Jesus, to find out who he was, but could not, on account of the crowd, because he was small of stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was going to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and saw him, and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down; for I must stay in your house today." And he made haste and came down, and welcomed him joyfully. And upon seeing it, all began to murmur, saying, "He has gone to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." But Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, I give one-half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it four-fold." Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he, too, is the son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."